

# OF INTEREST TO MAID AND MATRON

EDITED BY VIRGINIA SLOANE

## Money Making Opportunities for Energetic Women BREAKING INTO NEWSPAPER WORK.

IN all probability the most trying period in the life of a woman who is just beginning to make her living is the breaking into the field selected by her and the gaining a foothold on the greatly crowded threshold of the business world.

Writing is a thing that occurs to nearly every woman's mind at least once in her life. Nearly every woman is thoroughly convinced that she could write if she wanted to, and when some women find it necessary to begin to earn money they turn to the pen, and invariably to the newspaper office.

The newspaper office, the life of a reporter are very mysterious things to many, while to the reporter it is but a matter of business and the office is a place for work, not romance.

There is very little romance connected with the life of a woman on a newspaper; there is nothing wildly exciting or very thrilling. It is generally a question of getting your "story" in the shortest possible time, writing it, turning it in and getting another to do. Newspaper life holds much of the same routine that is to be found in other work.

It was suggested to me the other day by one who wished to begin reporting that she obtain a position in the business office of a certain large paper, and from there work up to the editorial side. Such a thing did not appeal to me as being a very wise scheme, but rather than trust entirely my own judgment I spoke to the assistant manager of a paper.

"Why," said this man, old in newspaper work, "I would not advise anything of the sort. The business office of a large newspaper has nothing to do with its editorial and reportorial doings. The girls and women employed in this department see nothing and know little of the work of the reporters. One might just as well work in any other office away from the newspaper building for all the benefit she will derive from this method of going about becoming a reporter."

And that is true. If one is to be a writer she will get her position from any other office as quickly as she will from the business office of a paper.

Proofreading is another thing that women do in newspaper offices, but nearly all of these women were first printers. They have no time to think up or turn in stories. When they are through with their work at the proof desk they are quite tired enough, so that is one more thing a girl must cut off her list.

There are a few stenographic positions open, but the very best thing that a young woman can do if she desires to be employed in a newspaper office is to make application to the different papers.

This is best done in writing and mailed simply to the editor of whatever department she wishes to become connected with. But there are few of these positions open.

I know one young woman, two, in fact, who obtained positions as stenographers on a New York newspaper. At the end of a year both of them were doing newspaper work and have been so occupied ever since. During this year their eyes were opened and they began to appreciate what news really meant and also that it is valuable.

They began to see that the man or woman who had the very best ideas made the most money, for ideas are valuable, and ideas are what go to make up certain parts of a paper.

Now, these girls were fortunate in their start, but there are some things that a girl who has not this chance can know before she really begins to do this work that would be a great help to her; they are things she would learn after a long and perhaps trying experience.

Sit down and study the newspapers, see what kind of news each prints, how the same story in three different daily papers differs in style and what the difference is. Most women begin to work on the Sunday supplements; many stick to these because with good ideas and hard work they are a good field. If you wish to do this, and it is best to begin that way, study the various supplements, and don't make the mistake of taking a serious story to a paper using nothing but sensation, or vice versa.

Think out a list of stories. By stories one means what the layman calls articles. Think out the subject carefully, also the line of illustration you wish to follow. Photographs are very much in demand to-day, especially if they are very good and each tells some sort of a story in itself.

When you have thought these stories, or, as they are called in the newspaper work, "suggestions," out, and have written them down briefly, go to your newspaper office, to the Sunday or daily department, whichever you select, and send in your card to the editor. On the daily you must have news, so the beginner goes to the Sunday editor.

Beyond a doubt the office boy will ask what you wish to see the editor about. You can tell him that it is in reference to suggestions for Sunday stories. Probably you will not see the editor at first. He is a really busy man and if he does not know you and your work he will generally send his assistant for the interview. This assistant is capable and knows very much what his editor wants, and so it is foolish to feel piqued, as many do, because they do not see the editor himself.

There is nothing very easy about this business. One must be on the alert all of the time. When she is "free lancing," or selling stories to all of the papers and receiving a salary from none, that is, doing what is called special work, she must supply her own ideas. Assignments are not frequently given to free lancers.

Speaking of the reporter, it is pretty necessary, as a rule, for a woman to be a free lance before she can become a reporter. Editors cannot safely engage one to do their work just because she assures him she can write. It is like no other business. One must prove herself capable of getting news and being prompt before an editor is going to offer her a position, then he is not going to do it unless he thoroughly believes that she is the one to fill the place.

Many women who hold positions on the staff of papers have begun their work in the offices of a small out of town paper. These women have received a good, practical training, and though they have not been associated with a large city daily, they know the order and methods pursued in such work and understand how to go about collecting news and how to put their copy in acceptable form.

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## A REFRIGERATOR HINT.

It was a friendly grocery clerk who suggested a remedy for the possible odor in an icebox affecting prints of butter. It so happened that the purchaser had only an ice chest of rather contracted proportions in which to keep her provisions, and in order to delay the melting of the ice (partly owing to a piece of the valve having come off) she used heavy brown paper to keep the chilly block from touching the sides of the box. So far, the idea worked well, but it is hard to find paper that will be absolutely without a "refrigerator smell" when the contact with the ice has made it damp. For a time this did not matter, as the milk was in closed bottles, and the butter she was used to buying came in sanitary waxed pasteboard boxes. But when she was no longer able to get that brand and had to take ordinary one-pound prints, without other protection than waxed paper, the grocery clerk met her objections by suggesting the use of the oblong tin boxes in which half pounds of American teas are packed. They are good teas, too, but she did not even have to purchase them, as he offered to save her a box, and into it the pound print fitted with just the little margin to spare that would make it easy to slide the butter out when wanted. Since then she has also learned that a good pound of charcoal in the corner of the icebox helps to keep the air in it sweet—quite as much as it keeps fresh and odorless the water in which cut flowers are placed in vases or other receptacles.

## PRACTICAL TALKS BY THE APRIL GRANDMOTHER

### YOUR CHOICE OF THE MORNING BATH.

"BE certain that the sort of bath which you regularly take is the best one for you." The April Grandmother's face was grave as she watched her eldest granddaughter, who was blue looking and shivering, although the morning was balmy and sunshiny.

"The idea that a cold plunge directly after arising is a good thing for everybody in the world is a mistake. For some physics it is precisely what is needed to send the blood racing through the veins, tingling pleasantly as it travels. But in other instances it is too severe a shock, which reacts unpleasantly upon the nerves. Any person affected in the latter manner, and particularly a young woman who is still at the growing stage, should give up the cold bath in favor of one that is warm, or at least tepid. Then if she slowly sponges her body with cool, not ice cold, water she will not be likely to get a chill. And the brisk, steady rubbing with a Turkish towel which follows this sponging will arouse circulation sufficiently to prevent the hands, the lips and the tip of the nose from looking blue and unhealthy. Moreover, as the cold shower tends to reduce the flesh of the body and because nervous girls should do everything possible to protect their nerves from shock, obviously any loss of adipose tissue should be prevented.

"Some girls who cannot bear the idea of plunging into cold water go to the other extreme and literally cook themselves in a hot bath," continued the April Grandmother as her eyes turned almost involuntarily toward her youngest descendant. "They half fill a tub with water which feels pleasantly warm to the hand, then, having stepped into it, almost seal the rest of the body, which is many times more sensitive to that sort of heat, because customarily protected from the elements."

"Nevertheless, once in the tub, the girl stays there, and as the water cools turns on the hot tap in order not to reduce the temperature, forgetting that the steam that is filling the little room is also contributing its share of heat. What wonder that for some time after being dressed she is weak and languid, and feels that she needs a stimulant? A great many of the late spring and summer colds which afflict people are contracted in precisely this way, but the 'hot bath crank' nearly always ascribes her affliction to some other cause, and by dosing herself with medicines contrives to upset her stomach and perhaps ruin her complexion. She could get precisely as clean with a tepid bath as with one which steams all the time out of her pores, only she doesn't believe that she can do so. The fact is that all the water in the Atlantic Ocean would not cleanse a human body unless plenty of good soap were used with it.

"It is the soap which does the real work."

yet many girls are so afraid of it that they merely dab a little on a cloth when first plunging into a bath and expect the water to do the rest. After a thorough bath in warm or tepid water, a cake of ordinary sized toilet soap should be reduced to about the same proportions as is a bar of laundry soap after a hard day's washing. No girl can afford to economize on soap. If she has an idea that the coarser brands disagree with her skin and believes that she cannot afford the finer qualities, she may make toilet cakes for herself with sweet and olive oil, scenting them with her favorite perfume.

Nobody had anything to say in reply and the April Grandmother concluded:—

"The easiest way of soaping the water for a bath is to throw into the tub small bags made of cheese cloth and filled with soap shavings, which dissolve rapidly. Water so treated will permeate all the pores of the body and soak out of them any grime or germs more thoroughly than you can get at them with a cloth or a brush. The advantage of doing this can easily be seen while drying the body with the roughest towel obtainable, for its coarse surface will remove particles of ancient dried up cuticle which a smooth towel would merely slide over. And the mortifying feature is that these particles are continually ready to come off, no matter how frequently the soapy warm bath is indulged in."

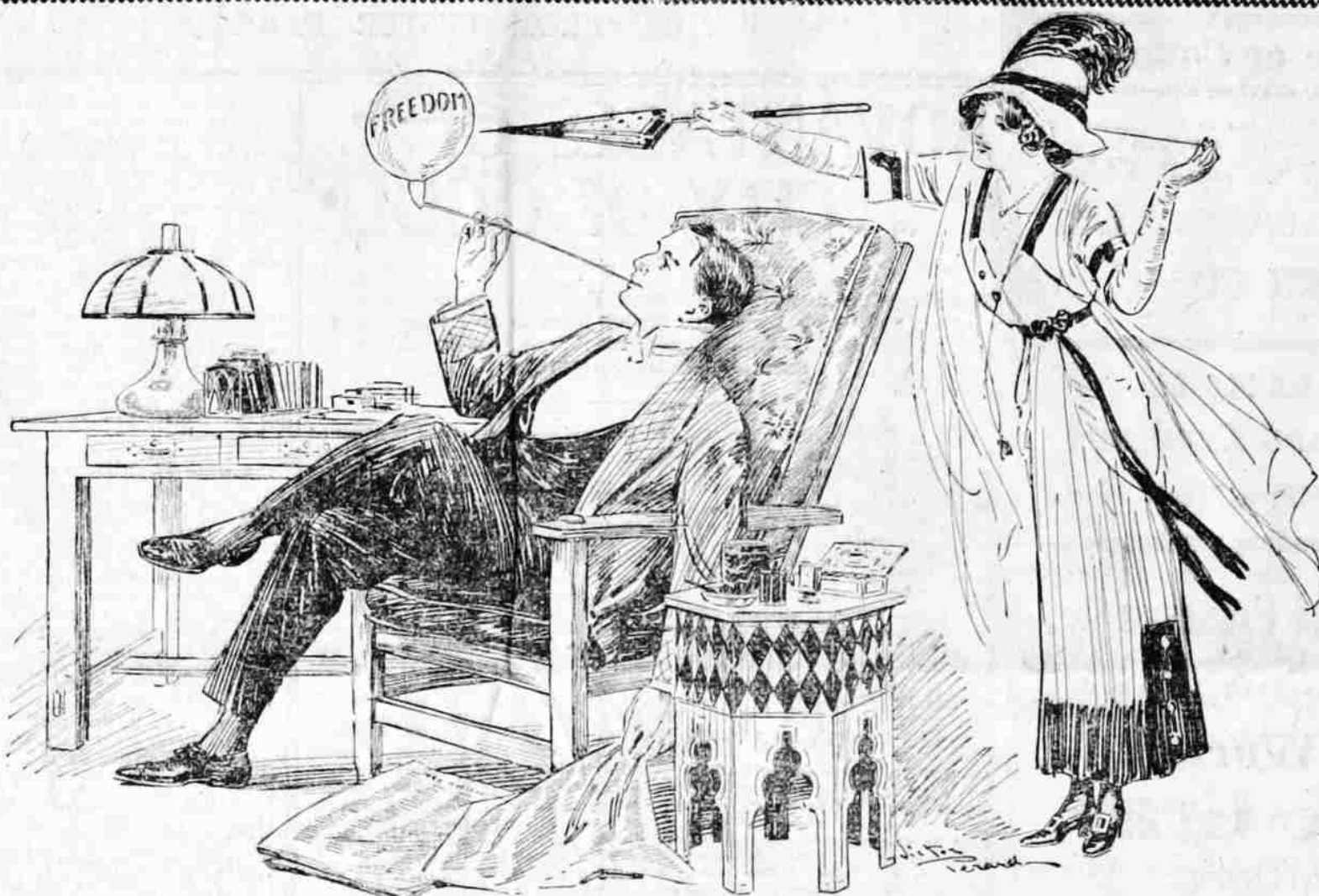
### SHOPPING HINT.

THE girl whose skilled fingers add the dainty touches to her wardrobe, instead of paying for them ready made, may find the experience of a sister needlewoman valuable in preventing a bad mistake. An ambitious little maiden had just purchased some handsome plain cream silk net for a rumpie with sleeves and was turning away to seek the counter where chiffon for lining it could be purchased when a friend at her elbow remarked:—

"Why don't you just use plain cream colored cotton net of a fine quality for the lining? My dressmaker advised it, and it gives a much more lacy effect."

No sooner said than done. The cotton net was purchased and carried home, and was cut out exactly the same as was the silk net. The rumpie was an entire success, so far as appearance went. It fitted well, and had a very good effect with the costume of cream colored cloth. But it had not been worn three times when its owner saw, with dismay, that the edges of the silk net, at arm's eye, at elbow, and where it joined the collar, were fraying out, inch lengths of the heavy silk thread standing out from the goods in every direction, though she had allowed ample at the seams to prevent any such thing.

On examining it, she discovered that while the silk net is firmly woven, and will not stretch perceptibly, net of cotton is quite the opposite in weave, and stretches decidedly. It had stretched, in this case, putting all the strain on the silk net, which had yielded "all along the line." It had to be darned down on the cotton net, with sewing silk, and little tucks had to be taken in the cotton net to keep even that darned from giving out.



THE CYNIC'S BUBBLE

## The Stars and Their Influence

FOLLOWING are the readings and delineations, according to planetary law, of persons born during the present week:—

July 14.—Economical, matter of fact and practical; will achieve the best success in real estate, agriculture or anything connected directly with the products of the earth. Not afraid of hard work; very material, lacking spirituality and indifferent, though not hostile, to religious belief. Eager to accumulate money, and not likely to let any of it go when they once have it. Cold, calculating and merciless in judging others, overlooking entirely their own weaknesses and defects. Excellent in business dealings, having a natural shrewdness which makes them equal to any in commercial transactions. While they will work under others, it will not be for long, as their energy, aggressiveness and ambition will soon make them their own masters.

July 15.—Bright, clever and quick witted; versatile in many fields of endeavor, but not very thorough in any. A quick worker; no love for detail, however, and as a consequence nearly everything they do will lack finish. Very enthusiastic, but just as quick to become discouraged; will start many enterprises, but leave them before they are half completed or given a fair trial. Consequently, they will drift from one thing to another and not achieve success in anything. Nevertheless, they will never have difficulty in getting positions, and even lucrative ones, as they will appeal to others by their cleverness and originality. They will have some good ideas, but will not be able to carry them through because of lack of capital and persistence.

July 16.—Persons born this day will find this rather a disappointing period of their existence. They will experience many discouragements in business and domestic affairs and their minds will view things generally in a pessimistic manner. They will fret under unavoidable delays and find it difficult to make headway. However, they should remain calm and wait for better things. This is due to the transit of the mysterious and psychological planet Neptune over the face of the sun at their birth, and while this inharmonious influence will last some time, it is a period of building up intellectually, and the experience thus gained will be

quite an asset for the future. What they will lose now they will eventually gain.

July 17.—Prolific imagination and dramatic ability; prudent, industrious and very conscientious; will do best in fields of creative work in the realm of literature, music or art. Women born on this day put their best work in their homes and make it a haven of refinement and elegance. Money they care not so much for, except as a means to lift them and help them to higher things and for the improvement of intellect. They abhor ostentation and "brass band" display and like to live a quiet and unobtrusive existence. They are happiest in their own domestic circle.

July 18.—Self-sacrificing, patient and painstaking. Persons born this day belong to that great class of heroes and heroines who, though their names never become known outside of their own immediate circle, by their own unselfish work are entitled to perpetuation in stone and bronze. At home, in the fields of charitable and humanitarian work, at the bedside of the sick, they can always be found, lighting the cares and suffering of others without thought as to their own comfort. These persons do the great, quiet work of the world; they are seldom heard of, but their labors and their self-sacrifice count in the building up of humanity and the constant onward march of civilization. They are only happy in making others happy.

July 19.—Careless and quick in speech and will bring annoyance and suffering to others unwittingly. As a result they will also hurt their own chances in life. Those born with a tendency to hasty speech can, however, greatly curb it through will power. While we are all destined to move in a certain groove, we nevertheless have free will to control our speech and our actions.

July 20.—Witty, bright in conversation; versatile, clever, well versed in literature and arts, and social. Lovers of good dinners and company; always welcome at social affairs, though unable often to reciprocate the invitations of others. Can apply themselves to mental work, but never to manual labor. They often live in a world of dreams, dreaming great things that are never realized. They admire genius and they often are thrown in, so to speak, with men and women of genius, but, after all, with all their talents and accomplishments they lack perseverance, persistence and application. They put off their work constantly for some other time, but somehow that "some other time" never comes. Nevertheless they drift along merrily, like a butterfly under summer skies, leaving worry and care to others and getting the most enjoyment, they can. They are admired and respected and make many friends.

## Woman of To-Day a Renaissance Type.

It has been said lately by an up to date American that her many able and intellectual countrywomen were portrayed by those of the Italian Renaissance. In this statement, in spite of its truth, there lurks, perhaps, the germ of self-flattery.

The change that has come over the women of the nineteenth century has been as rapid as the one that brought the women of the Renaissance from the ignorance and superstition of the dark ages. Many burning questions, especially that of the equality of the sexes, were early treated by these women in a way similar to that in which they are handled at present. Yet they had not to assert their right to higher education, probably because the enlightenment of women had then become the fashionable cult of the masculine world.

Little girls especially were fed on the classics, while learned canons advised their parents to put pens, instead of needles, into their hands.

In consequence, these women of four and five centuries ago discoursed in Latin, wrote pure Greek and Hebrew, besides speaking in several languages. They occupied chairs of philosophy and law in the universities; preached in cathedrals and were consulted on public affairs by kings and popes alike. Isabella d'Este was sent by her husband to the Vatican to settle delicate matters of diplomacy, while it was not unusual for women to ride at the head of troops, as Caterina Sforza did when, after her husband's death, she defended the fortress of Forlì, that her children's heritage might be saved.

To-day it is doubtful whether the German Emperor would consult Mrs. Pankhurst on the best method of besieging a city. She may be as militant as the Renaissance women, but she has not as dignified an outlet for her ability.

In America to-day there are many scholarly women; but the students at the universities would listen with chagrin to a lecture on law or philosophy by one of them, and were the speaker beautiful she would hardly find it necessary to hide herself behind a screen. At best she would be rated as strong minded.

During the Renaissance, however, the fascination and the womanliness of these learned women are questioned by only a few cynics. Knowledge meant to them simply another feather in their caps and was not thought to eradicate the most bewitching charms.

These women besides were mothers, and the care of their households was very intelligent. They seldom murmured

about their servants, yet this class of beings was very troublesome. They were given to running the streets at night, and complained of for asking a florin a month and reserving part of the time for themselves.

Men of rank then gave heed to their educated wives and daughters as valuable adjuncts, since they drew about them the wit and learning of the day. They revived the art of conversation, and inspired the Italian courts to reach their acme of brilliancy.

In the matter of marriage, however, these women were under the deepest subjection, although no more so than were men during the lives of their fathers. Women were married, divorced and remarried with somewhat of modern frequency, even though they had no choice in the matter. The three husbands of Lucrezia Borgia were disposed of in turn to suit the personal interests of her father and brothers, while their power forced her marriage with Duke Alfonso much against his will.

Princesses such as the wicked, distracted Lucia were costly week-end guests. She paid her visits with a retinue of two thousand, and the "society reporters" of the day wrote descriptions of her brocades and gowns that make the modern accounts of women's gowns seem poverty stricken.

These women were forbidden to use cosmetics or to dye their hair. The corsets they wore are now being copied by modistes and introduced as the last word in this article of dress. In fact, to be "à la Renaissance" is the fashion of the hour.

Undoubtedly many of these wonderful women tried to stem the moral laxity by which they were surrounded, but Bianca Capella, with her infamous career, was still of Renaissance fibre, while Vittoria Colonna inspired so exalted a friendship in Michel Angelo that when she lay dead he kissed her hand, regretting for the rest of his life that he had not dared to salute her on the brow.

## The Aristocracy of Porcelain.

THE chances are that hidden in the garret of some New England farmhouse, dating from Colonial or Revolutionary times, there may still be found many specimens of old Coalport-Swansea or Nantgarw ware.

These wares are eagerly sought by dealers and collectors of early English porcelains. At Coalport or Golebrook Dale a certain John Rose manufactured porcelain as early as 1750. In 1799 the



Caughley works were built and white wares made a specialty. In 1820 the Swansea and Nantgarw factories were incorporated with Coalport.

Billingsley, a celebrated painter of roses, was employed and worked at Coalport till his death in 1828. About 1821 was introduced a ground of ware on which was used sometimes in bands around cups and saucers. Replicas of Dresden, Chelsea, Sevres and other fac-

ories were produced, on which the marks were also copied. Small sprig patterns known as "The Wound Sprig" and "Tourney Sprig" are frequent on Coalport porcelain.

George Haynes established the Swansea pottery about 1750. About 1800 "opaque china" was brought out, and much of it was decorated by W. W. Young, who painted birds, butterflies and shells.

In 1817 a very fine soft paste was produced, decorated with flowers, insects, natural history and other subjects. About 1820 the works were removed to Coalport. The mark "Swansea" was stamped in the clay. Afterward it was painted in red, sometimes with the addition of one or two tints.

About 1813 Billingsley, the flower painter, started a porcelain factory at Nantgarw, in Wales. Vases of beautiful form, plaques and services decorated with flowers and birds and insects on tinted grounds were made at this factory.

A frequent decoration was a centre sweetbriar rose, with a border decorated with trofeils. The works were transferred to Coalport in 1820.

R. K. Brunner—Marcelini was a Dresden director about 1796, and his name appears on some pieces.

M. E. Keller—J. J. on Sevres means that the piece was made in 1787.

## Exercises to Prevent Double Chin

THERE is no line of a woman's face so indicative of age as the "jaw line." The suggestive at twenty-five becomes a possibility at thirty and a stern reality at forty. Some faces acquire the double chin more readily and earlier than others because of sagging and lax muscles, but much can be done to ward off and alleviate this unsightly line if a few simple rules are practised.

High collars will invariably cause a double chin and too much cannot be said against them. They not only form this line by folding the flesh above, but they mar the skin of the neck by their pressure and heat. The present fashion of low collars is being generally adopted, and many women will continue to wear them beyond this season because of their comfort and decided benefit to neck and chin lines.

A second help in the demolition of the double chin, and a healthful practice as well, is pillowless sleeping. This habit at first is hard to acquire, and it will take a few nights to become accustomed to lying with shoulders and head flat, especially if one has always slept with bolster and pillow. But one wakens from a night of perfect relaxation and dreamless sleep with refreshed nerves and rested muscles. With the high pillow the head is bent forward, the chest muscles are cramped and the flesh of the neck folds beneath the chin.

The muscles which must be strengthened in order to prevent or delay the forming of a double chin are those at the side of the face. Do not attempt to massage in ignorance or you will only stretch and not tighten the muscles. Electrical massage applied to the sides of the face and extending with upward motion to the hair roots will tighten, or hold up the double chin.

Here is an exercise which will do much, especially if one's muscles are sagging from lack of vitality or ill health.—Lie flat on the back across a bed or on a couch where the feet can be put in the head's place. Allow the head to hang down over the edge of the couch, not too far for comfort, but enough to let the blood flow more quickly above the waist line. Raise the feet on pillows above the line of the head and remain in this position for ten or fifteen minutes each day. By this reversal of the body the muscles of the face are nourished and strengthened, and a decided improvement

in the double chin will be noted in a short time. Gentle stroking upward of the face, cheeks and temples while resting with the feet raised will also help, but care must be taken not to stretch the skin.

A tonic bath should be given the flesh when the skin is flabby, although a treatment for nourishment should be used first. For the tonic, and also for a delightful refreshment to the skin, use a bath of tincture of myrrh. A few drops to a bowl of tepid water gives a milky bath which will be found most beneficial. The face should be gently splashed with the water for five minutes and dried by patting with a soft towel.

### THE BAG THAT HOLDS MUCH.

FOR shopping, to hold a somewhat bulky piece of needlework, even for a little visit, there is no bag more comfortable to possess than one such as was recently made by a clever girl, and by her dubbed "general utility." It has all the good points of the bag with firm sides and the adaptability of the softer bag at one and the same time.

When carried on the arm this bag is "satchel shape," and the outer section, which forms the bottom and the two sides which turn up from it, has as foundation a piece of buckram about sixteen inches by ten, which is covered with silk, soft suede or embroidered linen, according to the fancy of the possessor. The bag proper is generally made of a contrasting shade of the same material, or possibly plain, broadened or flowered silk can be combined in the one bag. A bag of silk and suede, however, is most desirable, and will give splendid service if the silk chosen be heavy enough to stand wear.

To put the construction plainly the inner bag is an ample one, the sides of which are gathered to an oblong piece, six inches by ten. This is fastened securely against the middle six inches of the outside piece, leaving at each side a piece five inches by ten to be brought up against the silk of the inner bag and stitched firmly to it. The fulness of the silk inner bag should be kept rather toward the ends of the satchel. The bag proper has a casing at the top, through which either ribbons or a silk cord can be run, but for convenience in carrying on the arm straps of the outer material are attached to the upper corners of the stiff section, on each side, forming loops large enough to pass the arm through. Inner pockets can be stitched on before the outer section is attached.